

# The United States Air Force Heritage of America Band

## LANGLEY WINDS

### **Master Sergeant John A. Fritz, Group Leader, oboe**

Master Sergeant John A. Fritz, a native of Liberty New York, entered the Air Force in July of 1985. He has been a member of the Heritage of America Band since August of 1995. Sergeant Fritz earned his Bachelor of Music Education degree at the State University of New York at Fredonia and received his Master of Music degree from Ithaca College. His former teachers include Dr. Steve Mauk, Dr. Lawrence Wyman and Phil Koch. In addition to his talents as an oboist, Sergeant Fritz is an accomplished saxophonist and was recognized by Downbeat magazine for outstanding performance with his Saxophone Quartet. His Air Force accomplishments include Non-commissioned Officer of the Quarter, the Air Force Achievement Medal and the Air Force Commendation Medal. In his spare time, Sergeant Fritz enjoys playing with swing bands, remodeling his 1907 home and spending time with his wife, Patricia.

### **Master Sergeant Roger D. Novak, horn**

Master Sergeant Roger D. Novak, hornist with the USAF Heritage of America Band, is a native of Alamogordo, New Mexico and holds a Bachelor of Music Education degree from the University of New Mexico. His former teachers include Herb Winslow, Kristin Thelander, Ron Lemon, and David Wick. Sergeant Novak is a member of the National Symphonic Winds and the Hampton Horn Quartet. His professional experience includes performing with the Virginia Symphony Orchestra, Virginia Musical Theater and principal horn the Southwest Symphony Orchestra. Sergeant Novak was awarded the John Levitow Award at NCO Leadership School.

### **Technical Sergeant Julie A. Stockdill, bassoon**

Technical Sergeant Julie A. Stockdill, a native of Mt. Morris, Michigan, has been a member of the Heritage of America Band since October of 2003. She first entered the Air Force in 1991 and has been a bassoonist in the USAF Heartland of America Band as well as serving overseas in the United States Air Forces in Europe band. Sergeant Stockdill holds a Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Michigan and a Master of Music degree from Baylor University. Prior to joining the Air Force, she could be found performing with the Waco Symphony and the American Waterways Wind Orchestra. In her spare time, Sergeant Stockdill enjoys cooking, hiking and spending time with her husband, Reid, their daughter, Macey and their cat, Zoey.

### **Staff Sergeant Anne M. Epperly, flute**

Staff Sergeant Anne Epperly is originally from Martinsville, Virginia. She attended the North Carolina School of the Arts, earning her High School Diploma in 1993 and a Bachelor of Music degree in 1996. She then continued her studies at the prestigious Aspen Music Festival and in 1999 completed a Master of Arts degree at Queen's College in New York City. Sergeant Epperly was an active freelance musician in New York and San Diego, performing in such venues as Christ and St. Stephen's Episcopal Church and was the principal flutist of the Queens College Orchestra. She also performed in Europe at the Strada Faciendo New Music and Dance Festival in Pisa, Italy. Sergeant Epperly began her Air Force Career with the United States Air Force Band of the Golden West, Travis AFB, CA, in 2002 and has been a member of the USAF Heritage of America Band since September, 2005. She performs with the Concert Band, Langley Winds and the Ceremonial Band. In her free time, Anne enjoys hiking, reading and cooking. Additionally, she enjoys teaching flute and working with elementary school children.

### **Senior Airman Jeffrey R. Boehmer, clarinet**

Senior Airman Jeffrey R. Boehmer joined the USAF Heritage of America Band in October of 2003. He was born in Frackville, PA and raised in Frederick, MD. Airman Boehmer received a Bachelor of Music degree in Clarinet Performance from West Virginia University in 2002. While there, he studied with Dr. John Weigand and Jeanne Frieben and held principal clarinet positions in the university orchestra and wind symphony. Airman Boehmer has also studied privately with Mark Gallagher (the Washington Opera), Fred Ormand (the University of Michigan), Yehuda Gilad (the University of Southern California) and has attended chamber music coaching sessions with Ray Still, retired principal oboist of the Chicago Symphony. Prior to joining the Air Force, Airman Boehmer performed regularly as associate principal clarinet in the Hagerstown Municipal Band and with the West Virginia Symphony Orchestra, West Virginia Public Theatre and the Orchestra of the Buckhannon Choral Society.

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